

Petersburg Regional
Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Ms. Marie Parker, LHRC Member
Mr. Michael Nichols, LHRC Chair
Ms. Kathy Tierney, LHRC Member

Committee Members Absent

Mr. Steven Watkins, LHRC Member
Mr. Norman Stone, LHRC Member

Affiliate Members (Group A) Present:

Ms. Lashanda Powell, Triumph Residential Services, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Tanisha Green, Jireh House, LLC, LHRC Affiliate
Mr. Daniel Herr, Gateway Homes, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Ramona Strickland, Poplar Springs Hospital, LHRC Affiliate

Affiliate Members Absent:

Ms. Arleatha M. Simms, Simms Children Assistance Services/New Horizon Group Home, LHRC Affiliate
Dr. Rudolph Ford, S.O.A.R., LLC., LHRC Affiliate
Mr. Lola Shodeinde, Amazings Grace, LLC.
Mr. Mario Haskett, Y.E.A., LLC.
Mr. Elijah Freeman, We Care Residential Services, LLC, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Wilma Mullins, DBS Family Services, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Carey Benton, ECCS, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Ti'Juana Gholson, FamMat Services, LLC, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Bernice Lee, Life Enhancement Services, LLC, Prospective LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Latonya Brown, Positive Image, LHRC Affiliate
Ms. Linda Wallace, River City Residences

Others Present:

Ms. Carrie Flowers, Human Rights Advocate, Office of Human Rights
Ms. Kimberly M. Lindblad, Specialized Youth Services of Va., Inc., LHRC Affiliate and Liason to the LHRC
Mr. Mario Haskett, Y.E.A., LLC, LHRC Affiliate (Group B)
Mr. Marlon Lancaster, Balanced Minds, LLC, Prospective LHRC Affiliate
Mr. Charles Scott, United Family Services, LLC, Prospective LHRC Affiliate
Mr. Jawarren Cowles, United Family Services, LLC, Prospective LHRC Affiliate

I. Call to Order

- a) Mr. Nichols called the meeting to order at 2:36pm.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- a) The committee reviewed the minutes from the September, 2011 meeting. Ms. Tierny motioned to approve the minutes as written; Ms. Parker seconded. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments

No public comments.

IV. New Business

- a) Charles Scott, CEO of United Family Services, presented his agency and services with a request to affiliate with the PR-LHRC. His agency will provide Mental Health Support services in the areas of Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Richmond, and Emporia. Jawarren Cowles, with the same agency, informed the committee that Mr. Scott and Mr. Cowles wish to go into the communities where they grew up to “give back” to the youth what they gained from their experiences. They will focus their efforts on the population of young people ages 18 to 24 years old with mental health diagnoses. Mr. Scott’s and Mr. Cowles’s primary work experience has been in the Mental Health field in Intensive In-Home Counseling. The agency anticipates information about the services will be spread via “word of mouth, doing good work, and church connections”. The agency will explore partnering with the local Community Services Boards for referrals and service coordination. LHRC Committee Members provided feedback to the agency that they add a specific age range to their brochure. Ms. Tierney moved to accept the agency as an affiliate with this committee; Ms. Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried. United Family Services was added to the roster of Group A Affiliates, for purposes of meeting attendance.
- b) Absolute Best Care was not in attendance therefore no action was taken regarding their request for affiliation.
- c) Marlon Lancaster of Balanced Minds, LLC, presented his agency and services with a request to affiliate with the PR-LHRC. The agency will provide Mental Health Support services to individuals ages 18 to 65. Mr. Lancaster’s experience is in the field of Mental Health, primarily doing Intensive In-Home Counseling. He observed that while he was in the homes to work with the youths, many of the adults showed signs of also needing support. The agency intends to provide help in

the areas of budgeting, finding employment, etc. The agency will serve clients in Richmond, Chester, and Petersburg, primarily. Mr. Lancaster's employment experience is in recreation and in providing life skills training for adults. Referrals will come from Rubicon, local hospitals, and "word of mouth". Mr. Lancaster will target service provision in low income areas where individuals have greater difficulty accessing services. Mr. Lancaster is currently also employed by George Wythe High School as a coach. Mr. Lancaster will consider finding ways to provide services to the uninsured (grants). Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the agency's affiliation with the committee; Ms. Tierney seconded the motion. Motion carried. Balanced Minds was added to the Group B roster of affiliates for the purposes of meeting attendance.

- d) Triumph Residential Services requested to use a bed with rails as protection for a client who has fallen out of his regular bed. Agency has already obtained a prescription from the client's medical doctor. Client is also on medications that may be contraindicated. The agency is employing more qualified staff to work with this client as well as staffing that particular home with an additional staff person. The agency has submitted requests for program changes to DBHDS, and is awaiting a response from them. The agency provided a copy of the doctor order (for the bed with rails) to the Office of Human Rights (OHR). OHR has the doctor's order and therefore the modification is allowed. Triumph Residential services will provide feedback to the committee members regarding the client's ability to get in and out of the bed with the rails in place. Triumph Residential Services will provide this feedback during the next meeting.
- e) Triumph Residential Services requested separate house rules for a new client who is also a registered sex offender. Due to issues he's exhibited with phone use privileges, the agency would like to deny him access to a cell phone, require that he inform group home staff of who he is calling, and that he remain within arms reach of group home staff at all times when the group is out in the community together. Currently, prior to home visits, he is required to notify his P.O. of his plan for the home visit. Ms. Powell indicated the client had already agreed to the new rules. Rather than make individual program rules for the client, Ms. Parker motioned that

the unique rules for this client be drafted into his service plan; Ms. Tierney seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- f) Agencies should defer Human Rights technical questions to Ms. Carrie Flowers with the Office of Human Rights. The liason (Kim Lindblad) is clerical support only to the Committee Members. Affiliate requests to make changes to licensing requirements or programs go to the OHR, with paperwork forwarded to LHRC committee members two weeks in advance of the upcoming meeting, for their review. Ms. Lindblad should be advised roughly three weeks in advance of the LHRC meeting of the need to have the request placed on the agenda; this directive can come from Ms. Flowers or the Affiliate as long as the Affiliate has received the approval of OHR prior to that directive being issued.
- g) Y.E.A., LLC, will soon be requesting a program change to add Mental Health Support services to the array of services they currently provide. No official action taken.
- h) Triumph Residential Services will soon be requesting to add an Intermediate Care Facility (ICFMR) and Mental Health Support services to the array of services they provide; they may request an emergency meeting prior to the May 2012 meeting. No official action taken.

V. Old Business

- a) It appears Affiliate Dues have not been submitted yet by Positive Image, FamMat Services, Y.E.A., LLC, Simms Children Assistance Services/New Horizon Group Home, and S.O.A.R., LLC. (Balanced Minds and United Family Services are now also required to submit dues to Gateway Homes, attention Daniel Herr. This affiliate has agreed to manage our dues and provide quarterly statements to the affiliates for recordkeeping.)
- b) Annual reports were required to be submitted to OHR by Jan 15, 2012.
- c) On the annual and quarterly reports, where the report references “sexual”, this is meant to reflect staff on client abuse or alleged abuse. The “peer to peer” section is meant to reference all aggressive and sexual contact between peers. AWOLs and situations characterized as “dangerous” or “unsafe” are documented in the “other” section.
- d) Mr. Norman Stone was approved by the State Human Rights Committee.

- e) This committee is in great need of committee members as we have a vacancy for a consumer member and Ms. Parker's tenure will expire this coming summer (2012).

VI. Affiliate Reports

- Jireh House, LLC (will ammend annual report and resubmit)
 - ECCS (absent)
 - Gateway Homes
 - Triumph Residential Services, Inc.
 - FamMat Services (absent)
 - Poplar Springs Hospital
 - Positive Outlook (absent)
 - Life Enhancement, LLC (absent)
 - River City Residences (absent)
- a) Y.E.A., LLC, Mr. Mario Haskett, requested the committee liason to send him formats for the quarterly and annual reports again. It was also suggested that the absent and newer affiliates receive the forms as well.
- b) *Reminder to Affiliates: you are required to forward Program Reports (on the newest format) to your Affiliate Liason (Ms. Lindblad) regardless of whether or not your attendance is required at the scheduled meeting. (Group A attends the August 2012 meeting; Group B attends the May 2012 and November 2012 meetings.)*
- c) Ms. Tierney motioned to approve acceptance of the affiliate reports (with amendment to the annual report from Jireh House); Ms. Parker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VII. Advocate's Report

- a) Affiliates need to work to recruit members.
- b) Kim will forward the fall 2011 Human Writes newsletter to affiliates. SVTC will de-institutionalize within the next couple of years. There will be more affiliate providers and this LHRC should anticipate growing in affiliate numbers. DBHDS regulations have been revised; providers need to be familiar with new regulations. There will be a new ID Crisis Stabilization unit Richmond that will be managed by

RBHA; there will also be mobile unit. An Adolescent Crisis Stabilization Unit (regional program) will open at St. Joseph's Villa in May or June of 2012.

VIII. Closed Session

No closed session occurred.

IX. Other Business

- a) Meetings scheduled to be held during the 2012 year will occur as follows: February 8, 2012 (Group A), May 9, 2012 (Group B), August 8, 2012 (Group A), and November 7, 2012* (Group B).

b) Reporting Period	Reports to Kim by	Meeting Date
9/20/11 – 12/31/11	1/10/12	2/8/12 (Group A attends meeting)
(2011 Annual Reports would be submitted, disseminated and reviewed as well.)		
1/1/12 – 3/31/12	4/10/12	5/9/12 (Group B attends meeting)
4/1/12 – 6/30/12	7/10/12	8/8/12 (Group A attends meeting)
7/1/12 – 9/30/12	10/10/12	11/7/12* (Group B attends meeting)
10/1/12 – 12/31/12	1/10/13	2/13/13 (Group A attends meeting)
1/1/13 – 3/31/13	4/10/13	5/8/13 (Group B attends meeting)

X. Adjournment

- a) Mr. Nichols made a motion to close meeting. Ms. Tierney seconded the motion. Motion carried. The LHRC meeting was adjourned at 4:07pm.

3/15/12; kml